AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The funding pattern of the Public Sector Outlay for the Plan does not provide for any monetised deficit in order to restrict the rate of inflation to 5 per cent per annum during the Ninth Plan. This strategy has been envisaged keeping in view the fact that planned increases in the foreign exchange reserves would generate corresponding increase in the base money in the economy and any additional increase in the money supply through deficit financing would create problems in monetary management.

(d) and (e) the Plan recognises that there may be unexpected hitches not only in raising additional resources but also in maintaining the desired rate of inflation at the 5 per cent level. In order to take care of such situations, the Plan provides for the alternative of allowing the inflation rate to rise to 7 per cent. In such a situation, it would be possible for the Government to take recourse to certain degree of monetised deficit of 0.3 per cent of the GDP.

Allocation for Indira Gandhi Canal Project

1058. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the Indira Gandhi Canal Project under the 'State Plan Allocation' head in Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount sanctioned and provided for the said project from the State Plan Allocation 1998 and till the completion of the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(c) by when Government would provide the remaining fund; and

(d) the amount proposed to be allocated for the Indira Gandhi Canal Project during the Ninth Five Year Plan, together with amount of money likely to be provided during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) As approved by the Planning Commission, the Eighth Plan (1992—97) outlay in the State Plan for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project (IGNP) (Stage I & II) was Rs. 442.09 crore.

(b) and (c) The reported cummulative expenditure under State Plan upto the end of Eighth Five Year Plan and during Annual Plan (1997-98) for this project were Rs. 1042.10 crore and Rs. 88.19 crore respectively.

(d) As indicated in the State Annual Plan (1998-99) document, the outlay including Central assistance (i.e. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme and Border Area Development Programme), for this project for the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) and for the current financial year (1998-99) are Rs. 1100 crore and Rs. 200 crore respectively.

गरीबी रेखा का निर्धारण

1059. श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार यह सोचती है कि वर्तमान गरीबी रेखा वैज्ञानिक तथा तर्कसंगत नियमों के अनुसार निर्धारित की गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन नियमों का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा किस आधार पर ऐसा मापदंड निर्धारित किया गया है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार गरीबी रेखा की समीक्षा करने तथा उसे पुनः निर्धारित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?